

preferable way to do it would be a lower number in the A bill, but the amendment is here.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Senator Will, members of the Legislature, not just being on the Judiciary Committee but working with probation officers every day, I stand to support this amendment, and I think it is money well spent. In Nebraska, we have got a very, very good Probation Department. With intensive supervision, we are doing one hell of a job, and I say, we, not necessarily me but the people we have working in that department. I know we are going to have some people talk about money, and not with Senator Hall, because he makes sense when he talks about his dollars, we are going to have people say we can't spend this money, we can't spend it, we can't spend it, and it will be some of them same people who are going to say they're crime fighters. If we are going to be fighting crime, this is one of our first lines, people, is the area of probation. On Tuesday night, you never see me here and I won't be staying late on Tuesday nights because I have an outpatient treatment program that I do in Omaha with mostly young people. Last night, I had another one of my clients tell me they had their...they lost their probation officer because they had quit to go for better work. And you hear that all the time. What Senator Lindsay, and Senator Hall, and Senator Chambers, everybody was talking about here, it happens all the time. We are a training field for our probation officers to go on to the feds and other states. These people do a good job, and do a very necessary job, and I really believe, and know in the long run that they save us money by not working with people who do not have to end up going into our correctional system. I urge you to support this amendment. It is necessary, and it is very, very good business. Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Pedersen. Senator Monen, you are recognized.

SENATOR MONEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in support of this amendment. We talk about victims' rights, and we get a very solemn and grim look on our face and what are we going to do about the victims. I regard this amendment, along with whether or not we are going to have more juvenile judges and the judges' salaries, anything having to do with the court system, and this one particular, as a litmus test of the sincerity of those people who profess concern for victims. Let's see if they